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The World's Stake in U. S. Agriculture

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the world's stake in U. S. agriculture

To a schoolboy in Peru, U. S. agriculture provides a mid-morning milk break and a nutritious lunch, helping him grow into a sturdier adult.

To a refugee sleeping in Hong Kong's streets, U. S. agriculture means a chance to live—rice to ward off starvation; cotton-filled quilts to keep him warm.

To a farm technician in Nigeria, U. S. agriculture supplies the know-how that will enable his country to produce more of its own food and progress economically.

To freedom-loving people everywhere, U. S. agriculture is opening the gate to achieving basic human needs as old as mankind.



sharing abundance

U. S. farmers, operating in an economy based on free enterprise and personal incentive, help make all this possible. They produce enough high-quality food and fiber for 187 million Americans—with abundance to share.

Last year, the U. S. exported \$5.1 billion worth of farm products—nearly one-fourth of our total exports. Of these farm products, \$3.5 billion sold for dollars; \$1.6 billion moved under the Food for Peace program.

Exports in 1962 accounted for 15 percent of the U. S. farmers' sales. One acre of every five produced for export. The 45 million tons exported from U. S. farms was enough to fill 4,500 cargo ships, an average of 12 shiploads every day of the year.

Some of this food goes for disaster and refugee relief. In the last 5 years, for example, the U. S. has given almost 147,000 tons of food to refugees fleeing Algeria. A \$5.5 million grant was made in 1962 to help ease famine in drought-stricken Northeast Brazil. Food grants to the Congo last year exceeded \$2 million.

U. S. food is reaching more than 37 million children in 80 countries through school feeding programs. By the end of 1963, nearly one-fourth of Latin America's child population will have been served by such projects.

Our food fills a dire need in 110 countries through CARE and other non-profit groups.

Foreign currencies generated from food sales are helping to finance irrigation, reclamation, and reforestation projects; to improve railroads, highways, and bridges; to build power plants, hospitals, schools.

Food grants are used in some areas as wages for workers on such projects. U. S. wheat in India, for example, is part payment of wages to workers on irrigation systems.

62892 *sharing know-how*

Food programs to meet emergency needs and promote economic development are relatively short-term plans. To aid other countries on a permanent basis, we are sharing the vast store of agricultural knowledge that has helped America produce abundance.

Thousands of foreign agriculturalists come to the U. S. each year to see how we do it in laboratories, on test plots, and on farms.

And today about 1,200 U. S. agricultural technicians are abroad, helping with projects ranging from land reclamation to raising poultry. They are training technicians in more than 50 countries in research and educational methods.

future customers

U. S. food is meeting human needs and stepping up economic growth. It helps curb inflation, stabilizes world food markets, provides disaster relief, enables underdeveloped countries to put more resources into investments. This way we're building future markets for U. S. goods of all kinds.

Take the case of Japan. At the end of World War II, Japan was economically prostrate and looked to the United States for food supplies and other assistance. Last year U. S. exports to Japan came to more than \$1.5 billion; nearly a third of this was farm products.

Japan is now the largest dollar customer in the world for American farm products, ahead of other major buyers like the United Kingdom, Canada, West Germany.

bulwark for freedom

By sharing abundance and the know-how that makes it possible, U. S. agriculture stands as a symbol of hope to people in other lands that they, too, may some day enjoy freedom from hunger and achieve their aspirations for a better life.

Cooperative Extension Work: United States Department of Agriculture and State Land-Grant Colleges and Universities Cooperating.

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